

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending. The Examiner required restriction of these claims as follows:

Group I (claims 1-6, 9-15, and 19) drawn to a polypeptide, polynucleotide, vectors, host cells, method of making protein and method of using the protein to treat a patient.

Group II (claim 7 and 8) drawn to a method of detecting a polynucleotide.

Group III (claim 16) drawn to an antibody to the polypeptide.

Group IV (claim 17) drawn to an agonist to the polypeptide.

Group V (claim 18) drawn to an antagonist to the polypeptide

Group VI (claim 20) drawn to a method of using the antagonist.

Applicants provisionally elect Group I (claims 1-6, 9-15, and 19) and also elect the polynucleotide sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO. 9, *i.e.*, “one SEQ ID NO to be searched” (Office Action at page 2). Applicants election is with traverse insomuch that the Examiner is obliged to find that “[T]he protein and the DNA sequence exhibit corresponding special technical features” and that, therefore, there is no lack of unity between claims directed to a protein “X” and the DNA sequence that encodes protein “X” (Example 17, Part 2 of Annex B to the PCT Administrative Instructions).

Thus, in the present case, unity of invention exists between the claims for the polypeptide depicted in SEQ ID NO. 1 and claims for the corresponding, encoding DNA sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO. 9.

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Accordingly, there is no undue search burden on the Examiner, and Applicants respectfully request that he examine all of the elected claims. Examiner Landsman is invited to contact the undersigned if he feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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